

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Assistance Bill Consultation](#)
Subject: Comments on the Bill
Date: Monday, 10 September 2018 4:01:42 AM

Dear Australian Government,

As a computer scientist and software developer having read the regulations and powers you propose to give yourself in this new bill, I believe that the language is too broad to pass. The powers of demanding re-engineering of technology to include spyware are extreme and breach companies' own codes of ethics, who try their best to keep private data safe. The ability to force these re-engineerings unannounced to the public gives your government nearly unlimited power and those wishing to keep their lives private are forced to change the way they use the web. This bill will mean that no data online is safe, which inevitably will lead to a censored web – which is a tragedy as the internet is the one place where complete freedom of information should be able to thrive. Not only that but the trigger for this bill is that the software reaches one Australian citizen, which means that any developer is at the mercy of this law, even a hobbyist just trying to run a simple website. And while you may claim that the applications of the bill are likely to be more narrow, the broad language gives you unlimited power to apply it in nearly infinite instances of these “narrow applications”. As it stands the bill essentially makes you an authority to control the web, yet the web must remain ungoverned. This bill should not be passed at all.